

# Penn State Collegian

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### WELCOME STRANGERS!

The fact that many unfamiliar faces are daily appearing on the campus is no excuse for effervescence in the editorial columns but there are certain occasions when such action can be pardoned. Chief among these is the opening of a new college year and the enrollment of a new college class about to start the struggle of four years of collegiate existence over the battlefields of academic, athletic, and social exigencies. We witness the debut of the class of 1926.

When action is justified, then comment customarily follows. The freshman class is starting its career at an auspicious time, in an era of Penn State history that will probably be remembered by unusual growth and added recognition throughout the country as an American University of high rating. Construction preparations in evidence on the campus bear convincing testimony of this impending growth and those who doubt, need but read the daily papers to realize that President Thomas, the victorious athletic teams, and the college speakers have not labored in vain.

Such is the setting of the stage as the verdant frosh steps forth into the limelight. They seem to be more dignified and more earnest in their bearing. Intellectual foreheads and studious demeanors are by no means rare and all seem to be bent upon acquiring an education. The stimulus of growth now prevailing State College atmosphere unfortunately does not help the crowded conditions so that more applications can be considered but it should serve to impress the new members of the student body of the good fortune that they enjoy in being among the favored few.

There yet remains a word of advice to be spoken and it should be taken in the spirit of good fellowship in which it is given. The freshmen will be subject to a broader and better set of customs than has ever before greeted the newcomers. The student body is in a frame of mind to give their whole hearted help whenever needed in a way that will make all Penn State men brothers, and which will insure the perpetuation of that wonderful Penn State spirit. On their part, the Frosh are warned against having an exaggerated notion of their own importance. Honorable graduation from a high school, no matter where it is situated, should not create that independence and egotism which is taboo at the college. We advise you, Freshmen, to watch the sincere greetings expressed when two Penn State men meet. Be the dearest and most cordial that you can. It follows and try to imitate the typical Penn State student.

### A BRIGHT OUTLOOK

A cheering bit of news awaits the student body returning for another year of scholastic pursuits. The football squad looks like another winner. The brilliant success of the 1921 season is reflected in an afterglow that bids fair to become a conflagration if—

Fate is kind and if the various members work with the same spirit that characterized past years. Since the beginning of the month, Coach Bezdck and his able assistants have been working overtime in an effort to combine the inexperience of the new men with the skill and the grim determination of the veterans. He is overjoyed to sense an undercurrent of cooperation that has made itself felt in the daily workouts.

But serious doubts are forever arising. The need for experienced backfield men, the necessity for changing men around in the different positions to find where they work the best, and the brief time that remains before the opening of the season—all these form a dark cloud. Then, too, there are always a few questions that make the coaches anxious. How will the new student body regard the team? What will Penn State think if the work slows down and a slump appears to slow up any progress that is being made?

The answer rests with the individual student. Those who saw a champion team emerge from a green and apparently worthless combination will give their support. An unwavering faith in the ability of the coaching staff and in the players insure this. Time will solve the other problems. In fact, everything is simple; just an application of that principle, "Everybody shove together in the same direction and something is bound to happen."

### POSTER NIGHT

The attention of the student body is directed to the decision of Student Council which discourages the continuance of these practices previously associated with Poster Night. A resolution to this effect was passed last May after a careful study of the annual frolic and its harmful effects had been made. A committee was appointed at that time to discover a sane and satisfactory substitute. A recommendation of this committee will probably be made at the first meeting of the Council this month.

The misconduct of some in past years is responsible for the ban upon one of Penn State's oldest customs. The growth of the college and the consequent need for broader and more truly representative regulations are sufficient reasons for this forward step.

Previous to last year, as the older men remember, the members of the new Frosh class were forced participants of an outing that closely resembled a barbaric festival of useless caperings, senseless conduct, and, oftentimes, severe walloping. Before the night was considered a success, property had to be destroyed. Last year, the annual hike was transformed into a picnic with refreshments but there still remained that desire on the part of some to return to the savage state.

A movement is spreading throughout American collegiate life to favor the establishment of only those customs which are based on sanity, usefulness, and originality. Even though unwilling, each college or university will become engulfed in this new conception. That one which takes the lead and which can boast of the justice of its customs will be recognized as the most progressive.

### NEW MEN'S DORMITORY IS WELL UNDER WAY

(Continued from first page)

to each unit from the other, and the construction of the entire group is of fireproof material. Most of the rooms will be double, eleven by twenty, providing one thousand cubic feet of air space for each man.

The arrangements for the comfort of the students occupying the new residences have been the chief consideration of the Trustees in approving the plans. The building itself will be mod-

ern and up-to-date in every respect. Shower baths will be provided for every five men, wash basins for every three. General and local lighting will be provided throughout, and a vacuum cleaning system will be installed. As for all the buildings, heat will be supplied for the new residences from the central heating plant, and hot water will be provided at all times.

The entire dormitory plan will eventually cover an immense quadrangle with Varsity Hall as the head house of the group. The residences for women, to be erected later, will be located on what is now Holme's Field,

## Education

### WHY BUSINESS MEN SHOULD BE INTERESTED IN EDUCATION

By Dr. John M. Thomas

The people of Pennsylvania pay about \$90,000,000 a year for education. Two thirds of this amount comes from local taxation. That is to say, more than fifty millions of dollars are paid out directly by the tax payers of the state each year for the education of their children and of the children of their neighbors.

Per person of population the cost of education is about \$10. For each child the cost is \$60. I do not believe that we are spending too much for education. We are not paying more for the entire annual education of a child than a mother would spend in a year for banjo lessons, alone, for her child, if she wanted him to learn to play the banjo.

Thus it will probably be universally admitted that we are not spending too much for the intellectual development of our children. If there is any question as to the expenditure, it must be on the ground of its effectiveness. It is the duty of the business men of Pennsylvania to see to it that the boy gets a dollars worth of education for every dollar spent.

Business men must interest themselves in education if they are to assist our school people to cure some of the defects that we know exist. For example, we have not yet been able to bring about anything like equality of opportunity between the city child and the country child. The average expense for the education of a child in the city for the entire United States is \$42 a year, while for the country child the average is \$23 a year. We are favoring the city child with educational advantages in the ratio of two to one.

And again the same tale is told by the number of school days in the country and city. The city child goes to school 182 days a year, while in the country districts, the average is but 142. I recognize that a dollar in the country will do more than a dollar in the city. But these figures show so wide a divergence that they indicate without question, that the boys and girls on the farms are not getting a square deal.

Train Pupils for Most-Needed Vocations

Business men should be interested also in the direction of school studies toward the various vocations. The principle should be that, so far as pupils are trained for vocations in the public schools, they should be trained for the callings in which the public will have the greatest need of trained workers. In the case of New York City it may be that courses in commercial subjects should be most prominent in the high schools, while in Pennsylvania our attention should be devoted to the preparation of men and women for activity in the fields of agriculture and

As a matter of fact however, over one half the students in Pennsylvania high schools are taking commercial course. I recognize the great value of commercial subjects, but that proportion is too great. Some day in this great industrial and manufacturing state, in this state which ranks seventh in agriculture, we are going to wonder what is the matter with our manufacture

tures and our great farming industry.

### The Work of Penn State

This is but one phase of the problem of education, but it is interesting to see how closely the Pennsylvania State College, which is now all but in name a state university, is preparing men and women for exactly those fields which have been most cultivated in this state.

Through its School of Agriculture, its experiment and extension work, it is perhaps the greatest single support of scientific agriculture in the state. Through its School of Engineering, it is preparing men in architecture, electricity, mechanics, milling, and in civil and industrial engineering, for service in the great business activities of the state. Its School of Mines is training men for one of the greatest of Pennsylvania industries, while through its School of Natural Science the chemists and physicists for the laboratories of the state are given their foundation. The School of Liberal Arts and the Department of Home Economics prepare the teachers and the mothers of the new generation.

Selfishly as tax-payers, and as business men anxious to have the best body of assistants available for employment it is to our interest to see that children are educated in the affairs and problems of our state to the end that plants may be operated with greatest possible intelligence and efficiency.

### A Duty to Provide for Education

But from a broader and more altruistic point of view it is our duty to provide generously and wisely for education in this state. As patriots endowed with the same fine spirit that actuated the founders of the American Republic, as men with the foresight of

government without popular information, or the means of acquiring it, is but a prologue to a farce or a tragedy." James Madison who said, "A popular education of the children of the future some provision that the increasing complexity of life shall be attended by a constantly improving means of preparing for it."

From the days of the little red school house where the three R's were taught, we have progressed to these days when general public education has been advanced to include high schools, and when, in the great majority of states, a state university has become a part of the public school system as the only doctrine of democracy.

If democracy means anything, it means a fair chance for all, and equal opportunity for every boy and girl. Such equal opportunity exists only when the state provides its own institution of higher learning free to all on equal terms, just as elementary and high schools are now provided. More and more a college education is becoming the normal and usual road to positions of leadership and power, and that road should be kept open for the humblest youth of the Commonwealth.

A Pennsylvania State University. If we shall not see democracy and popular government become the farce that Madison predicted for it if popular education were to be lacking, then it is our duty to provide a state university to cap the public school system of the state of Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania cannot long be content to do less for its young men and women than is done

by every state to the west and south.

DEAN WATTS MAKES SURVEY ON INCOME OF FARMERS. A recent survey made by Dean Watts of the School of Agriculture in regard to the income of farmers showed that the country bred farmer averages fifty dollars more a year than the city bred farmer. A study was made of two hundred fifty farm bred agriculturists and an equal number of city reared men who have gone back to the farm shows that the former average \$1338 per year and the latter \$1297.

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#### MONDAY

Return showing of JACKIE JOGAN in "Trouble" Stan Laurel Comedy TOM MIX in "For Big Stakes" NEWS WEEKLY

#### TUESDAY

Return showing of CORLANDE TALMADGE in "The Primitive Lover" TORCHEY'S NUT SUNDAY DOROTHY DALTON in "The Siren's Call" ELLI MONTANINO in "Ladies' Man"

#### WEDNESDAY

Return showing of J. M. Stahl's "ONE CLEAR CALL" LARRY SEMON in "The Soldier" BETTY COMESON in "The Bonded Woman" MERMAID COMEDY "Treasure Island"

#### THURSDAY

Return showing of MAX BENTLEY'S Six Part Comedy Drama "THE CROSSROADS OF N. Y." TONY SARG ALMANAC

#### THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

First Penna. showing of NOELLA TALMADGE in "The Eternal Flame" Added—BUSBY KEATON in "The Blacksmith"

#### FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

DOROTHY PHILLIPS in "Hurricane Cap" TOONERVILLE COMEDY

#### SATURDAY

BERT LITTEL in "Sherlock Brown" NEWS WEEKLY

#### COMING—

Bobo Daniels and Wallace Rold in "Nice People" Guy Bates Post in "The Misqueroam" The picture that will rank as one of 1922's best Thomas Molghan in "If You Believe It, It's So" Wallace Rold in "The Dictator" Rodolph Valentino in "Vicente Blasco Ibanez's Blood and Sand" Gladys Swanson in "Her Glorious Career"